



Office of the County Executive

St. Charles County

Steve Ehlmann
County Executive

August 31, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

St. Charles County, Missouri, in partnership with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), has applied for a TIGER Grant in the amount of \$100 million. Federal funding will allow for the completion of Phase III/Missouri Route 364 (Page Avenue), a project of regional and national significance.

Construction of this project will not only provide for an Interstate to Interstate connector, but will also provide traffic relief to the gridlocked Interstate 70, a transcontinental highway in the Greater St. Louis, Missouri, area.

St. Charles County and its municipalities will need to provide \$30 million, and MoDOT will provide a \$10 million match. This amounts to a 29% total cost share, which does not include past investments on the part of MoDOT and St. Charles County to complete preliminary design plans and to clear right-of-way.

I have been a supporter of the initiative to build and complete Missouri Route 364 my entire career, while serving in the Missouri General Assembly as a state representative and senator, as a resident and taxpayer, while serving on the bench as a circuit judge, and now as the St. Charles County presiding elected official. This project is supported by federal, state, and local elected officials, along with business and community leaders and the regional metropolitan planning organization (MPO).

The project is ready to be constructed and completed by early 2012. Design/build legislation sponsored and supported by the St. Charles County State Legislative Delegation has recently been signed into law by Governor Jay Nixon. According to the Missouri Department of Economic Development (as per REMI modeling), this project will create immediate jobs during construction and, thereafter, significant job creation will be realized.

We are eager to work with our partner MoDOT to get this project underway. A TIGER Grant application has been completed, and all requirements of the application have been met.

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Approval of the \$100 million TIGER Grant in January 2010 will allow work to get underway immediately.

Taxpayers look forward to seeing their hard earned tax dollars invested constructing Phase III/Missouri Route 364. Your favorable consideration is sought from partners willing to make a substantial investment in partnership with the federal government.

Sincerely,



Steve Ehlmann
St. Charles County Executive

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cc: The Honorable Christopher S. "Kit" Bond, United States Senate, Missouri
The Honorable Claire C. McCaskill, United States Senate, Missouri
The Honorable Todd Akin, Member of Congress, 2nd District - MO
The Honorable Blaine Luetkemeyer, Member of Congress, 9th District - MO
St. Charles County State Legislative Delegation
St. Charles County Council
Mayors - St. Charles County, Missouri
Mr. Kevin Keith, P.E., Chief Engineer, Missouri Department of Transportation
Ms. Maggie Hales, Interim Director, East-West Gateway Council of Governments